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AUGIT NEP

## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

### DISTRICT OF OREGON

## PORTLAND DIVISION

KOBI COOKE,

Case No.:

'10

839 HU

Plaintiff,

COMPLAINT;

vs.

FAIR DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES

ACT (15 USC § 1692a, et seq.);

**HUNTER WARFIELD, INC.,** 

DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

Defendant.

### I. INTRODUCTION

1. This is an action for damages brought by an individual consumer for Defendant's violations of the federal Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1692, et seq. (hereinafter "FDCPA").

#### II. JURISDICTION

2. Plaintiff's claim for violations of the FDCPA arises under 15 U.S.C. § 1692k(d), and therefore involves a "federal question" pursuant to 28 USC § 1331.

Complaint - Page 1

BH 1147 34723

#### III. PARTIES

- 3. Plaintiff, Kobi Cooke ("Plaintiff"), is a natural person residing in Yamhill County, Oregon.
- 4. Defendant, Hunter Warfield, Inc., ("Defendant") is a corporation engaged in the business of collecting debts by use of the mails and telephone. Defendant regularly attempts to collect debts alleged due another.

## IV. FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

- 5. Defendant is a "debt collector" as defined by the FDCPA, 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(6).
  - 6. Plaintiff is a "consumer" as defined by the FDCPA, 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(3).
- 7. All activities of Defendant set out herein were undertaken in connection with the collection of a "debt," as defined by 15 USC § 1692a(5).
- 8. Within the last year, Defendant took multiple actions in an attempt to collect a debt from Plaintiff. Defendant's conduct violated the FDCPA in multiple ways, including the following.
- 9. Falsely representing the character, amount, or legal status of Plaintiff's debt, including falsely stating in Defendant's letter, dated April 23, 2010, that Plaintiff owed \$2195.00 for funeral expenses. Plaintiff did incur this debt, but the original balance owing was \$2195.00 and Plaintiff paid \$1300 toward this debt on November 23, 2009. Therefore, the amount remaining owing is approximately \$900, ,not the \$2195.00 alleged owing in the April letter (§ 1692e(2)(A)).

- 10. Overshadowing the disclosures required by 15 USC § 1692g(a) during the thirty-day dispute period, including threatening harm to Plaintiff's credit report in the initial letter notifying Plaintiff of her right to dispute, and doing so such a way that the disclosures of Plaintiff's right to dispute are overshadowed by the threats to take action against her credit (§ 1692g(b)).
- 11. As a result of the aforementioned violations, Plaintiff suffered and continues to suffer injuries to Plaintiff's feelings, personal humiliation, embarrassment, mental anguish and severe emotional distress.
- 12. Defendant intended to cause, by means of the actions detailed above, injuries to Plaintiff's feelings, personal humiliation, embarrassment, mental anguish and severe emotional distress.
- 13. Defendant's actions, detailed above, were undertaken with extraordinary disregard of, or indifference to, known or highly probable risks to purported debtors.
- 14. To the extent Defendant's actions, detailed in paragraphs 8-10, were carried out by an employee of Defendant, that employee was acting within the scope of his or her employment.

# COUNT I: VIOLATION OF FAIR DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT

- 15. Plaintiff reincorporates by reference all of the preceding paragraphs.
- 16. The preceding paragraphs state a *prima facie* case for Plaintiff and against Defendant for violations of the FDCPA, §§ 1692g(b) & 1692e(2)(A).

### PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff respectfully prays that judgment be entered against the Defendant for the following:

- A. Declaratory judgment that Defendant's conduct violated the FDCPA;
- B. Actual damages pursuant to 15 USC 1692k;
- C. Statutory damages pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1692k;
- D. Costs, disbursements and reasonable attorney's fees for all successful claims, and any unsuccessful claims arising out of the same transaction or occurrence as the successful claims, pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1692k; and,
  - E. For such other and further relief as may be just and proper.

# PLAINTIFF HEREBY REQUESTS A TRIAL BY JURY

Dated this  $15^{1/2}$  day of July, 2010.

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